

**King County
Department of Community and Human Services**



2002 Annual Report



King County



Department of Community and Human Services Mission

To enhance the quality of life, protect rights, and promote the self-sufficiency of our region's diverse individuals, families, and communities.

Youth and Family Services Agencies embrace diversity and sponsor programs to encourage individual expression and appreciation of cultural differences. Pictured above are youth from the Ruth Dykeman Children's Center Asian Kids Society.

*On the cover: Abdi and Karote enjoying the summer!
Photo courtesy Central Area Youth and Family Services.*



King County

Message from the County Executive



I am pleased to present the 2002 Annual Report for the Department of Community and Human Services.

Providing services and supports to our most fragile residents and making it possible for them to achieve and maintain independent and meaningful lives in the community is the role and mission of this department. Together with their contract providers, and in collaboration with other service systems the Department of Community and Human Services reaches out to hundreds of citizens in King County, each and every day.

As King County Executive, I am particularly proud of the efforts we have made to improve access to affordable housing; the leadership we have shown in creating supported employment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities; and the support we have provided to vulnerable youth and adults

through treatment services, and educational and vocational assistance.

In these challenging economic times, this department has worked to establish and foster valuable partnerships with community organizations, treatment providers, schools, adult and juvenile justice, federal, state and local governments, and other stakeholders to develop regional and cross-system programs and supports that make our communities healthier, safer, and stronger.

I commend the staff of the Department of Community and Human Services for their dedication and commitment.

Sincerely,

Ron Sims,
King County Executive

Message from the Director

The past year brought many changes to the Department of Community and Human Services, including the retirement of our former director last July and my appointment by King County Executive Ron Sims the same month. I thank the staff, providers and members of the community who have offered their assistance to me. The past twelve months have been an incredible and rewarding learning experience.

A new director was not our only administrative reorganization in 2002. We undertook significant changes in the organizational structure of public defense services, including hiring the county's first-ever King County Public Defender, Anne Harper, an attorney with strong public defense experience. Anne will lead our efforts in 2003 to develop standards for services, and streamline our business practices for greater efficiency.

We also made a decision to centralize management of the publicly funded mental health system, discontinuing our managed care contract. Planning with the community was exceptional and we were successful in making a seamless shift for clients and providers, with no disruption in services.

We celebrated the passage of state legislation, many years in the making, which will create a dedicated funding source for

regional low-income housing beginning in 2003. And, we received additional federal funding for our WorkSource Renton Work Training Program to increase services for Boeing dislocated workers - critical assistance to help our region rebound from plant closures and downsizing.

Declining state and local revenues forced budget cuts in 2002 to several programs we valued. We were fortunate, however, to receive additional funding late in the year to develop new community treatment alternatives to incarceration for persons with mental illness and substance abuse. We have worked to bring together many departments of government to strategize cross-system service. We will report back to you next year on our progress!

The months ahead offer us challenge and opportunity, and we are ready for both. I am proud to share this 2002 Annual Report celebrating the accomplishments of the dedicated staff and community partners of the Department of Community and Human Services. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jackie MacLean
Director





Adolescent Treatment Enhancement Project (ATEP)

ATEP youth spent several months filming events, and each other, for an in-depth and personal look at addiction, the impacts on youth, and the ways that youth can help each other to overcome dependence on drugs and alcohol. ATEP, a federal grant designed to enhance culturally relevant services to at-risk youth, served 74 youth in 2002, the second of its three-year funding cycle. The grant also fosters youth empowerment and leadership skill building.

Department of Community and Human Services - Introduction

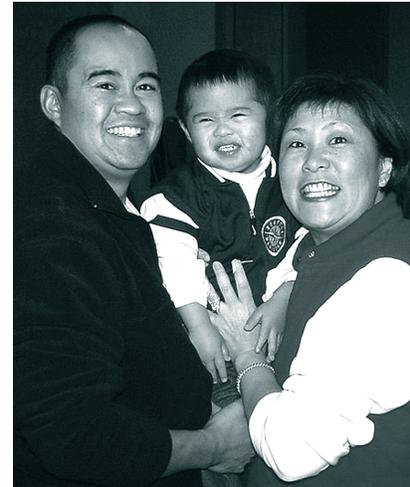
The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), either directly or through agency contracts, provides a broad array of services for the residents of King County: affordable housing, community development, crisis response, legal counsel for low-income persons, mental health and substance abuse treatment, education and work training programs for at-risk youth, vocational and job placement services for adult dislocated workers, services and supports for persons of all ages with developmental disabilities and their families, assistance to victims of domestic violence, information and referral services, assistance to residents of unincorporated areas, homeless assistance, home repair services for seniors and low-income or disabled persons, veterans assistance, and violence and substance abuse community prevention programs, and programs that reduce impacts to the criminal justice system. Our goal is to provide services that meet the individual needs of each client, create opportunities for achieving independent

and meaningful lives, and improve and strengthen public safety and the livability of our communities.

Administration

DCHS is responsible for the strategic planning, policy implementation, fiscal management, oversight and provision of care for the majority of King County's housing and human service programs and its public defense services. The Developmental Disabilities Division, the Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division, and the Office of the Public Defender. DCHS is a branch of the Executive Department and reports directly to the King County Executive's Office.

DCHS values family involvement.



Funding

In 2002, the Department of Community and Human Services managed a total budget of \$210.8 million. Funding for our services and public defense services comes from many sources: the federal government, the state of Washington, King County, local cities, and public/private foundations, as shown below.

	CX*	Other County fund**	State	Federal	Other***	Total
Mental Health/Substance Abuse						
Mental Health Fund	\$ 0.4	\$ 3.6	\$78.3	\$ 2.1	\$ 1.7	\$ 86.1
Substance Abuse Fund	1.5	1.8	9.0	5.9	0.3	18.5
Developmental Disabilities	0.5	2.9	13.5	1.2	0.1	18.2
Community Services Division						
Community Services	8.3	5.2	1.1	12.4	0.8	27.8
Housing Services	2.9	2.2	1.1	14.4	4.4	25.0
Office of the Public Defender	27.5	0.8	2.0	0	4.9	35.2
TOTAL	\$41.1	\$16.5	\$105.0	\$36.0	\$12.2	\$210.8
	19%	8%	50%	17%	6%	100%

* King County General Fund

** Other sources of funding direct to King County such as property tax millage, contributions from other funds, interest

*** External funding other than State or Federal such as cities and private foundations

Community Services Division

The Community Services Division (CSD) partners with other funders, agencies and local community groups to offer a variety of programs and services to King County residents of all ages. CSD services strengthen individuals and families along with improving the quality of life in low-moderate income communities.

Aging Program - Contracts with local agencies to help low-income residents, age 55 years or older, enjoy independent lives in the community. Agencies offer adult day health programs, chore services, nutrition programs and other supports for seniors. In 2002, the Aging Program helped 18,156 older adults maintain their independence.

Child Care Program - Sadly, due to budget cuts this program is in its last year and families were assisted to transition to other services. As the program closes in early 2003, child care services for homeless families will be transitioned to the local child care resource and referral agency.

Community Organizing Program - Works with community groups and local neighborhoods to mobilize their resources to prevent substance abuse and violence. A total of 26,075 individuals participated in prevention strategies, supported by 9,546 hours of direct staff service.

Housing and Community Development - Partners with many stakeholders to 1) create, preserve, and improve safe, affordable housing for individuals and families; 2) improve the livability of low-income neighborhoods; and 3) combat homelessness. A high point in 2002 was the hard-fought passage of state legislation creating a local dedicated revenue source for affordable housing.



Veterans are welcome at the King County Veterans Program offices! A variety of services including employment, transitional housing, financial aid, and mental health and trauma counseling are available for veterans and their family members.

Staff spent considerable time convening stakeholder groups and negotiating agreements to create the new regional affordable housing program, which takes effect in 2003.

Veterans Program - Assists low-income veterans and their families to make positive life changes while keeping their dignity and respect. A total of 4,182 veterans were served. Also in 2002, a new county/state partnership was created to meet the needs of chronically homeless women veterans, providing transitional and Section 8 housing, mental health and →→



The Housing Repair Program provides 0% interest loans and assistance with renovations and repairs of the homes of eligible low-income seniors and families. Many of the projects are completed with teams from the Youthbuild Work Training Program. Celebrating her new and improved living space is Helena Vacknitz of Kirkland whose roll-in shower, carpet and new vinyl floors were installed by the Housing Repair Program.

Housing

In collaboration with community partners, local developers and financial institutions, King County works to create safe and affordable housing for low-income individuals and families, seeks to improve the livability of our communities, and fights homelessness. King County receives about \$10.5 million in federal US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) dollars each year, which it administers on behalf of the county and participating suburban cities through a group called the King County Consortium.

In 2002, the King County Consortium used federal HUD and local Housing Opportunity Funds (HOF) to create, preserve, or improve a total of 1,142 housing units.

DCHS has several programs that help us to meet our housing and community development goals. The Housing Finance Program provides capital funds for affordable housing acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, and site improvements. In 2002, they funded the creation/preservation of 470 units. The Credit Enhancement Program lends the financial backing of the County to affordable housing project financing, thereby lowering the project's costs and offering inducements to developers to include more →

King County Executive Ron Sims addresses participants of New Start, a King County Work Training Program that provides education, employment, and criminal justice and/or gang intervention services for at-risk youth. New Start served approximately 200 youth in 2002.



affordable housing in their projects. In 2002, this program helped preserve 48 units of low-income housing in Bellevue at no cost to the county. The Housing Repair Program assists seniors and low-income families with low/no-interest home repairs and disability accommodations. In 2002, they made critical health and safety improvements to 672 homes owned or rented by low-moderate income individuals, families, and persons with special needs. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are administered to improve the livability of low-income communities. In 2002, CDBG funds helped to complete 21 public improvement or community facility acquisition or improvement projects across King County. Homeless assistance programs seek to prevent homelessness, and provide emergency shelter and transitional housing to persons who are homeless.



*Harrington House, Bellevue
Harrington House, completed in 2002, is an 8-bedroom transitional group home for homeless pregnant and parenting moms, built in part with King County's federal HUD and local Housing Opportunity Funds.*

substance abuse treatment; 35 women were served in this first year. The Incarcerated Veterans Jail Project, a joint operation between the county, state and federal veterans programs, had continued success reducing lengths of stay at the county jail while facilitating linkages to mental health and substance abuse treatment; 169 veterans were helped in the rebuilding of their lives by these community services.

Women's Program - Manages contracts with community-based agencies to assist women affected by domestic violence or sexual assault. Services include crisis intervention, counseling, legal advocacy, emergency shelter, and transitional housing. A total of 10,132 women got this much-needed help in 2002.

Work Training Program - Through a countywide network of partnerships, youth and adults participate in dynamic education and job training services to prepare for successful futures and careers. Schools, public/private/non-profit employers, agencies and local businesses provide education and vocational training that youth need to build their best future. Programs are available for youth that have dropped out of school as well as programs to help young people stay in school. In 2002, 1,394 young people who had dropped out of school received assistance to continue their education and 219 youth got the support they needed to stay in school. The Dislocated Worker Program is a comprehensive re-employment program for adults who have lost their jobs through plant closures or layoffs. This program helped 3,925 dislocated workers and disadvantaged adults get the training and referrals needed to re-enter the world of work.

Youth and Family Services - Concentrates services on youth (and their families) in high-risk circumstances or engaging in high-risk behavior. A particular focus is those youth who are in the juvenile justice system and those youth whose behavior and/or circumstances place them in serious danger of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. In 2002, the countywide Youth and Family Services Network Agencies involved youth and their →



Youthbuild, a highly successful Work Training Program for dropout youth combines classroom instruction and GED preparation with on-the-job training in the construction trades. Youthbuild served 64 youth in 2002.

families in counseling, case management, parenting classes, drug/alcohol treatment and support groups, employment and education. These agencies provided services to 18,460 youth. A network of seven youth shelters provides a safe alternative to the streets. In 2002, 485 youth found a safe haven in 16,358 bednights of shelter. Four agencies are dedicated to helping youth already involved in the juvenile justice system. Two hundred fifty-one youth received the assistance needed to get out and stay out of the juvenile justice system *

Developmental Disabilities Division

The Developmental Disabilities Division manages contracts with agencies throughout King County to provide services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities and their families including: early intervention, child development and therapy services for children with developmental delays age birth to three; family resource coordination and parent training, community access; employment services including job training and placement; and consumer advocacy services.

In 2002, the division successfully mobilized a model program to manage individual client accounts for 250 adults receiving State Supplemental Payments for services, and also sponsored a well-attended conference for service providers, persons with developmental disabilities, school employees, and others to increase awareness of community access programs. The division dedicated considerable effort in 2002 to assist persons with developmental disabilities to secure stable housing opportunities *



King County increased enrollment in 2002 in Early Intervention Services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays age birth to three, serving a total of 1,254 children in this age group. Pictured here are mothers and their babies enrolled in birth to three services, waiting to tell their stories at the Legislative Forum.



The Developmental Disabilities Legislative Forum, an extraordinary community event, brings together over 500 members of the community and more than two dozen King County legislators to discuss issues and priorities for the community. State Senator Darlene Fairley (second from right) meets her constituents.

The right to have the assistance of counsel in all criminal prosecutions is mandated by the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The agency responsible for ensuring access to legal counsel for eligible persons in King County is the Office of the Public Defender (OPD).

OPD staff provides eligibility screening assessments for over 50,000 cases per year. Staff is available seven days and four evenings a week at 15 locations throughout King County. Those that meet the criteria are assigned to a public defense agency or attorney. Contracts with four independent non-profit law firms provide the majority of the county's public defense legal services, and OPD administers these contracts and monitors the caseloads. The OPD also manages the county's Expert Services Program for indigent offenders including psychiatric or psychological evaluations, expert witnesses, investigation and forensic evaluations.

King County's Office of the Public Defender is one of the largest in the country. For those who are eligible, indigent defense services are provided for: all felonies in King County; all civil commitments in King County; all misdemeanors in unincorporated King County; and some misdemeanors in incorporated areas via contract with certain cities.

One of the greatest challenges facing OPD, and the county, is the sharp increase in aggravated murder cases over the past six years. In 1997, aggravated murder cases accounted for 2.5% of felony cases handled by OPD. By 2000, that percentage had risen to 7% and in 2002, it was 14.3%. Aggravated murder cases, by far, are the most costly to defend, often requiring more than one attorney, one of whom must be specifically qualified under Washington State Supreme Court rules, and significant Expert Services.

2002-2003 Reorganization: The King County Executive proposed and the King County Council approved a significant reorganization of the county's public defense services in 2002. The new structure created the position of King County Public Defender, a practicing attorney trained and experienced in public defense law. The Public Defender is responsible for managing the office and representing King County on public defense issues on both legal and governmental levels. Anne Harper, King County's first Public Defender was hired in late 2002 and assumed her position in January 2003. In the first year of its reorganization, OPD will work to develop both internal and external policies and standards to improve service delivery, manage public defense costs, and ensure accountability for expenses *

2002 OPD Caseload Distribution

<i>Civil Commitment - Alcohol</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>Drug Diversion</i>	<i>301</i>
<i>Mental Health Court</i>	<i>731</i>
<i>Civil Commitment - Mental Illness</i>	<i>2,037</i>
<i>At-risk youth petitions</i>	<i>2,532</i>
<i>Civil Contempt</i>	<i>2,595</i>
<i>Juvenile Offender</i>	<i>6,052</i>
<i>Dependency</i>	<i>6,105</i>
<i>King County Misdemeanor</i>	<i>8,276</i>
<i>Seattle Municipal Court</i>	<i>8,512</i>
<i>Felony</i>	<i>12,962</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>50,156</i>

Mental Health, Chemical Abuse, and Dependency Services Division

The Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (MHCADSD) is responsible for managing both the publicly funded mental health system and the publicly funded substance abuse treatment system for King County. Most



Specialty Courts help divert youth/adults to community treatment. King County Superior Court Judge Laura Inveen presides over the proceedings of Drug Court, which offers non-violent offenders an opportunity for substance abuse treatment in lieu of incarceration. King County also supports mental health courts. Photo by Erik Castro.

treatment services are provided through contracts with community mental health centers and/or substance abuse treatment agencies. Direct services by county staff include assessments for eligibility for publicly funded substance abuse services, 24-hour mental health crisis response services and investigation for mental illness involuntary commitment, public inebriate outreach and triage, and investigation for involuntary detention under chemical abuse state statutes.



Mental health services include individual, group and family therapy; case management; crisis intervention; vocational services; medication management; and assistance with housing and other supports. Mental Health Services were provided to a total of 33,246 persons in 2002: 9,906 children; 19,219 adults; and 4,121 older adults. This represents an increase of 8.4% over the total unduplicated number of persons served in 2001. The 2002 Mental Health Report Card reflected the challenge of providing services in the midst of severe state budget cuts to King County's mental health system. In spite of this, the annual report shows success in improving or maintaining psychiatric systems, in assisting people to acquire or maintain age appropriate activities other than employment, and in decreasing the time to first contact for persons discharged from inpatient settings or

released from jail. Crisis response services are available 24 hours of every day to all King County residents, regardless of income or insurance coverage. MHCADSD contracts with the Crisis Clinic to provide a 24-hour telephone line for crisis assistance and referrals to care; in 2002, they fielded 77,021 calls from persons requested mental health information and referral. The King County Designated Mental Health Professionals provide 24-hour crisis outreach and investigation for possible involuntary detention and treatment; in 2002, they received 6,854 referrals, saw 4,351 individuals, and involuntarily hospitalized 2,225 persons.

Substance abuse services available to county residents include: determination of →

Members of Health 'N Action meet with State Representative Al O'Brien (D-1) before the Community Legislative Forum. Rep. O'Brien, a regular attendee of the annual forum, sought the viewpoints of the young people on mental health and substance abuse issues. The forum brings together King County legislators and the community to discuss legislative priorities.

need and financial eligibility by the King County Assessment Center; sobering services provided through the Emergency Services Patrol and the Dutch Shisler Sobering Support Center; detoxification; outpatient treatment; residential services; outpatient opiate substitution treatment; employment and housing assistance; and outreach and investigation for involuntary detention and treatment for persons with acute substance use. In 2002, a total of 3,108 adults and 969 children/youth were admitted to outpatient treatment; 437 adults received opiate substitution treatment; 1,486 adults were admitted to residential treatment; and 44 youth and 3,108 adults received detoxification services. MHCADSD contracts with the Alcohol and Drug 24-Hour Help Line to assist persons needing crisis assistance and referrals to treatment; in 2002, they fielded 7,102 calls.

MHCADSD 2002 Special Projects

New Mental Health Plan Developed - King County made the decision to end its contractual relationship with a managed care company and centralize the business and clinical management of the publicly funded mental health system within the department. This required considerable planning, new policies and procedures, and hiring of new staff to negotiate and monitor contracts, authorize clinical care, and manage fiscal responsibilities.

Cedar Hills Addiction Treatment Facility Closed - After 30 years of excellent service to the community, CHAT closed its doors in 2002. The lack of sufficient funding forced the closure of the program. However, dedicated staff provided quality services through the last day of operation.

Health N Action goes to Washington! Proud mother Wanda Jones sends her daughter Ashley on her first major speaking engagement, and her first airplane trip! Health 'N Action youth were in demand in 2002 - traveling to conferences and grant meetings to talk about the power of youth voice and involvement in service planning.



Criminal Justice Community Treatment and Diversion Planning - DCHS received additional funding in late 2002 to develop a plan for coordinated community treatment and diversion alternatives to costly incarcerations in King County jails for persons with mental illness and/or chemical dependency issues. Implementation will take place in 2003 with enhanced assessments, community coordination and new programs for co-occurring disorder treatment, housing vouchers, and enhanced mental health and drug court programs.



Available 24 hours of every day, the Dutch Shisler Sobering Support Center and the Emergency Services Patrol staff provides assistance to publicly inebriated persons including screening, sobering services, intensive case management, and transportation to appropriate service agencies. In 2002, the Sobering Center made 22,588 admissions.

Mental Health Disaster Response Plan - Working closely with the local chapter of the American Red Cross and mental health providers, MHCADSD developed a model response plan to improve access to crisis mental health services for all King County residents in the event of a disaster *



Residents of King County's unincorporated areas listen to presentations by King County Executive Ron Sims and leaders from the six UACs at the Joint Community Forum for Unincorporated Area Councils held in September hosted by the Upper Bear Creek Community Council. The annual forum is one of many ways the county works to gather and share information with residents of these communities.

Unincorporated Area Councils

Unincorporated Area Councils (UACs) were created in 1995 as part of the Citizen Participation Initiative, with the goal of improving communication between County government and the residents of the areas of the county not incorporated within a city boundary. There are six recognized UACs in King County: Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council, Greater Maple Valley Area Council, North Highline Unincorporated Area Council, Upper Bear Creek Community Council, Vashon-Maury Island Community Council, and West Hill Community Council. DCHS Community Service Representatives serve as liaisons between the UACs and County government. They work closely with the County Executive, the King County Council, and numerous County departments and agencies to discuss and resolve a wide array of issues of interest and concern to these communities ✨

Fighting homelessness in King County

King County manages significant funding resources and devotes considerable staff to address the problem of homelessness in our region. The Seattle-King County Homeless Continuum of Care Plan provides the framework that ensures a comprehensive approach to homelessness.

In 2002, a total of \$23.5 million was dedicated to homeless prevention, support services, assessment and treatment, emergency shelter, and a variety of transitional and supportive housing programs. This total includes federal, state, county, and local city support.

Resources from across DCHS are utilized to assist these efforts - mental health, chemical dependency, housing and community development, veterans program, women's and domestic violence programs, and others. Our many community partners in these efforts include the City of Seattle, suburban cities, Healthcare for the Homeless Network, courts, law enforcement, mental health and substance abuse treatment providers, community based non-profit agencies, veterans organizations, and multi-jurisdictional housing groups.

2002 Homeless Efforts: \$23.5 M
Homeless prevention - \$344,229

Over 200 low to moderate-income households at risk of homeless received rental assistance.

Intake, Engagement, and Assessment - \$3.2M
Funds were used to provide access to intensive

outreach, assessment and case management for homeless persons with chronic mental illness, chemical dependency, developmental disabilities and behavioral health issues.

Emergency Shelter - \$1.5M

Over 71,000 bednights of shelter were provided for homeless veterans, domestic violence victims, single adults, and homeless women and their children. Funds were also used for operating and support services for emergency shelters and homeless prevention services that assist approximately 1,500 households annually.

Transitional Housing - \$3.2M+

Assisted over 800 households with funds for rental and operating assistance for transitional housing programs, childcare and domestic violence services for homeless families. Funds were also used for transitional housing and support services for homeless veterans.

Permanent Supportive Housing- \$3.2M

Over 1,000 homeless persons with disabilities received rental assistance and support services.

Support Services - \$4.5M

Two programs provided case management, primary care, respite, mental health and substance abuse services for homeless people.

Capital Projects - \$7.6M

Funds were provided to non-profit housing developers for the construction and/or rehabilitation of shelters, transitional housing, and other affordable housing for low-income individuals ✨



At work in the community

During 2002, Developmental Disabilities Division assisted 714 adults with significant developmental disabilities to be contributing members of their communities as wage earners in the public and private sectors. Nineteen supported employment contract agencies provided 42,789 hours of direct service to support workers to gain skills, obtain employment, and resolve work-related problems. These individuals total earnings were nearly \$7.2 million, with an employer-paid average hourly wage of \$9.27. Photos courtesy Puget Sound Personnel Services.



King County

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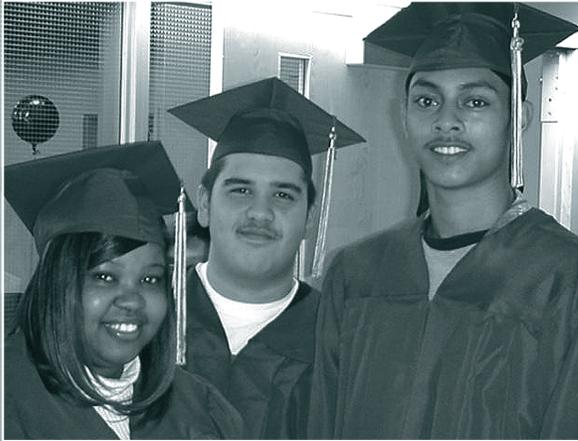
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Youthbuild students on graduation day.



Youth and Family Service Network agencies provide a variety of services to support children and young people to achieve healthy lives and futures. One of the lessons learned is how to give back to your community. Pictured here are young people from Mercer Island Youth and Family Services, providing community service for their neighbors.



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